

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, TECHNOLOGY, AND FEDERAL RELATIONS

Call to Order: Chair Daniel Zolnikov, on February 22, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 472 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Daniel Zolnikov, Chair (R)
Rep. Denise Hayman, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Derek Skees, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Laurie Bishop (D)
Rep. Geraldine Custer (R)
Rep. Adam Hertz (R)
Rep. Casey Knudsen (R)
Rep. James O'Hara (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Zac Perry (D)
Rep. Alan Redfield (R)
Rep. Adam Rosendale (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)

Members Excused:

Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)
Rep. Nate McConnell (D)
Rep. Shane A. Morigeau (D)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Sydney Kessel, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 504 & HB 475, 2/17/2017

HEARING ON HB 475

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:27 Rep. Tom Woods (D), HD 62, opened the hearing on HB 475, Requiring certain utilities to file general rate cases.

EXHIBIT(feh39a01)

00:06:05 Rep. Morigeau joins the meeting

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:08:08 John Alke, North Western Energy (NWE)

EXHIBIT(feh39a02)

00:17:25 Mike Green, Crowley Fleck Law Firm

00:21:55 Diego Rivas, North West Coalition

Informational Testimony:

00:27:02 Will Rosquist, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:27:35 Rep. Hertz
00:28:19 Rep. Woods
00:28:37 Vice Chair Hayman
00:29:11 Diego Rivas, North West Coalition
00:29:39 Rep. Hayman
00:29:45 Diego Rivas, North West Coalition
00:30:06 Vice Chair Hayman
00:30:09 Diego Rivas, North West Coalition
00:30:20 Rep. Olsen
00:30:55 John Alke, NWE
00:33:15 Rep. Olsen
00:33:25 Chair Zolnikov
00:33:35 John Alke, NWE
00:33:44 Rep. Olsen
00:35:02 John Alke, NWE
00:36:27 Rep. Olsen
00:37:09 Will Rosquist, PSC
00:38:54 Rep. Olsen
00:39:29 Will Rosquist, PSC
00:40:52 Rep. Olsen
00:41:43 Will Rosequist, PSC
00:43:10 Chair Zolnikov
00:43:17 Will Rosquist, PSC
00:43:42 Chair Zolnikov
00:43:52 Will Rosquist, PSC
00:44:53 Rep. Hertz
00:45:26 Mike Green, Crowley Fleck Law Firm
00:45:40 Rep. Hertz

00:46:03 Mike Green, Crowley Fleck Law Firm
00:46:56 Rep. Hertz
00:47:18 Mike Green, Crowley Fleck Law Firm
00:48:50 Rep. Custer
00:49:29 John Alke, NWE
00:49:57 Rep. Custer
00:50:11 John Alke, NWE
00:50:41 Vice Chair Skees
00:51:02 Rep. Woods
00:51:11 Vice Chair Skees
00:51:58 Rep. Woods
00:53:23 Vice Chair Skees
00:53:45 Will Rosquist, PSC
00:54:24 Vice Chair Skees
00:54:39 Will Rosquist, PSC
00:55:18 Chair Zolnikov
00:55:56 Will Rosquist, PSC

Closing by Sponsor:

00:57:00 Rep. Woods

HEARING ON HB 504

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:59:38 Rep. Bryce Bennett (D), HD 91, opened the hearing on HB 504, Generally revise net metering laws.

[**EXHIBIT\(feh39a03\)**](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:05:36 Andrew Valainis, Montana Renewable Energy Association (MREA)

[**EXHIBIT\(feh39a04\)**](#)

01:08:24 Jack Isbell, Solar Montana
01:10:17 Jeff Fox, Renewable North West (RNW)
01:15:26 Dillion Ecord, Associate Students of Montana State University (ASMSU)
01:15:56 Abigail Belcher, Associate Students of Montana State University
01:17:29 Conor Darby, Onsite Energy
01:22:33 Diego Rivas, North West Energy Coalition

[**EXHIBIT\(feh39a05\)**](#)

01:26:05 Deny Haywood, Self
01:28:48 Gary Matson, Self
01:29:47 Daniel Kennedy, Self
01:31:01 Rachael Hulf-Devia, Forward Montana Foundation
01:31:43 Kyle MacVean, Self
01:32:38 John Beaver, Self
01:33:12 Jim Baerg, Self

[**EXHIBIT\(feh39a06\)**](#)

01:34:46 Judy Matson, Self

01:36:04 Mark Juedeman, Self

[EXHIBIT\(feh39a07\)](#)

01:37:43 Brad Vanweart, Self

01:39:12 Ross Prosperi, Self

01:40:38 Brian Fadie, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:41:36 John Alke, North Western Energy (NWE)

[EXHIBIT\(feh39a08\)](#)

01:53:59 Joe Gordon, IBEW Local 233

[EXHIBIT\(feh39a09\)](#)

01:56:35 Chris Cavazos, AFLO-CIO

02:00:38 Jess Labuff, Boiler Makers Local #11

02:01:09 Bill Ryan, Self

02:05:01 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities

Informational Testimony:

02:08:00 Will Rosquist, Public Service Commission (PSC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:08:30 Rep. Hertz

02:09:16 John Alke, NWE

02:10:05 Rep. Hertz

02:10:25 John Alke, NWE

02:11:20 Rep. C. Knudsen

02:12:25 Rep. Bennett

02:12:53 Rep. C. Knudsen

02:13:14 Rep. Bennett

02:13:37 Jeff Fox, RNW

02:14:24 Rep. C. Knudsen

02:15:08 Rep. Bennett

02:15:30 Rep. Morigeau

02:16:32 Rep. Bennett

02:17:43 Rep. Morigeau

02:18:02 Conor Darby, Onsite Energy

02:18:41 Rep. Morigeau

02:19:20 Jeff Fox, RNW

02:21:24 Rep. Morigeau

02:21:46 Chris Cavazos, AFL-CIO

02:23:16 Rep. Bishop

02:24:09 Rep. Bennett

02:24:36 Rep. Bishop

02:25:11 Jeff Fox, RNW

02:26:35 Rep. Bishop

02:26:58 Jeff Fox, RNW

02:28:12 Rep. Rosendale

02:28:54 Connor Darby, Onsite Energy

02:29:03 Rep. Rosendale
02:29:33 John Alke, NWE
02:30:37 Rep. Rosendale
02:30:59 John Alke, NWE
02:32:52 Rep. Rosendale
02:33:03 John Alke, NWE
02:33:49 Rep. O' Hara
02:34:10 Bill Ryan, Self
02:35:31 Rep. O'Hara
02:35:42 Bill Ryan, Self
02:36:52 Rep. Olsen
02:37:41 Rep. Bennett
02:37:48 Vice Chair Hayman
02:39:12 Chris Covazos
02:39:42 Vice Chair Hayman
02:40:04 Connor Darby
02:41:36 Rep. Redfield
02:42:23 John Alke, NWE
02:43:21 Vice Chair Skees
02:43:47 Jeff Fox, RNW
02:44:28 John Alke, NWE
02:45:26 Vice Chair Skees
02:45:42 John Alke, NWE
02:46:27 Vice Chair Skees
02:47:20 Rep. Bennett
02:47:34 Vice Chair Skees
02:48:11 Rep. Bennett
02:48:44 Vice Chair Skees
02:49:01 Rep. Bennett
02:49:25 Vice Chair Skees
02:49:59 Rep. Bennett

Closing by Sponsor:

02:50:51 Rep. Bennett

02:55:41 Chair Zolnikov
02:56:06 Vice Chair Skees

02:56:17 Recess
02:59:06 Reconvene

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 03:00:00

Sydney Kessel, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([feh39aad.pdf](#))